



The Kenny Family
Aaron, Erica,
Tristan, Emma and Ava

Who? Aaron and Erica Kenny live in Nairobi, Kenya. Prior to working for Canadian Baptist Ministries, they pastored churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. They have three children: Tristan, Emma, and Ava.

When? The Kennys joined CBM in 2006.

Where? Aaron and Erica have been serving in Kenya for the last ten years, first among the displaced refugee population living in Eastleigh, helping to start and empower women's self-help groups.

What? Aaron and Erica serve as CBM's Africa Team Leaders, providing continental leadership and support for CBM's Muslim Ministries in Kenya, where they are involved in strengthening local churches in reaching their Muslim neighbours through integral mission. In 2010, they became the coordinators of CBM's Guardians of Hope program in Africa. The Guardians of Hope program works with people with HIV and AIDS in Rwanda, Kenya, and India. These support groups work in conjunction with local churches to provide practical, psycho-social, spiritual, and emotional support, particularly to protect and help orphans.

One of the guardians was a retired pastor named Daniel, who had joined the group out of a desire to be "useful," and to provide help to others. After having started to serve infected and affected members of Mivumoni, Daniel's one daughter died from an AIDS related-illness, leaving him to care for his two orphaned grandchildren. "She had never married, and I was left to help them. I can only say that through this time, God demonstrated to me the power of prayer. . . . Today the eldest is in secondary school. I could not have provided for them on my own. It has taken the help of many."



Daniel

HIV and AIDS is on a steady decline, yet Kenya is the fourth-largest area of epidemic in the world, with 1.6 million people infected. Each year, approximately 58,000 people die of AIDS-related illnesses in Kenya. Today there are 1.1 million AIDS orphans in Kenya.

Over the past five years, CBM has been helping to improve nutrition within communities through daily feeding programs in two early childhood centres that were revitalized with the help of community leaders. As the food security project has grown, village farmers are now able to provide fresh produce like bananas and kales for the children each day.

Children having lunch at the CBM feeding station in Bula Pamoja, Kenya



"The school feeding program has helped to attract and retain the kids in school," shared CBM colleague, Pauline Kariuki. "This is because most households in the community cannot afford meals during the day, due to abject poverty in the area. Since the inception of the school in 2012, twenty-two pupils have graduated to nearby primary schools which are approximately three kilometres away." Thanks to the generous donation of a Canadian Baptist family, the CBM team were able to partner with the community of Bula Pamoja in a food-for-work project that constructed a permanent school in the village.

Why? The Kennys have a passion for ministering among those most marginalized, and for cultivating Christian/Muslim relationships. "At the heart of integral mission is the great command to love God and to love our neighbours—these two cannot be separated."

Please pray for the rebuilding of homes and farms in the communities of Bula Pamoja, Bukuyu, and Mororco after the severe spring flooding. Intercede for peace and reconciliation in South Sudan. Pray for Pastor Thon, Pastor Jeremiah, and Rev. Saphano in South Sudan, that they may continue to lead with humility and courage as they witness of Christ's transforming love.

Helen Hopper

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Sources: Kenny Family Update (Summer 2016), Kenny "Something to Dance About" blog post, CBM "Guardians of Hope" information sheet